FABRIC Project Baseline Report

November 2012

Baseline assessment conducted for the Food Assistance to Build Resilience in Communities (FABRIC) Project

A one-year Samaritan's Purse food security project funded by USAID's Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP)

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1. Executive Summary

Food Assistance to Build Resilience in Communities (FABRIC) project is an emergency food security project focused on building resilience by decreasing levels of vulnerability to food insecurity in the communities of four communes in the Northern Tillabéry Region of Niger.

The two strategic objectives for this project are:

1. Increased year-round availability of food at the household level
2. Improved dietary diversity

The following report details information and findings from the baseline assessments conducted for the project. The information included in this report describes the prevailing conditions of the beneficiary population, the situation at the onset of the FABRIC project and the revised performance indicators and numerical performance targets set according to the findings.

The baseline assessment identified:

- 20 communities where off-season gardening activities will take place
- 20 borehole sites to aid in gardening activities
- 5 wells to be rehabilitated throughout the four target communes

In addition, a Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) survey was conducted to establish the baseline level of the eight project results indicators. LQAS methodology was used to also enable comparison between communes. ***The timing of this assessment fell directly after the annual harvest, causing favorable results in certain indicators related to availability and consumption of food.***

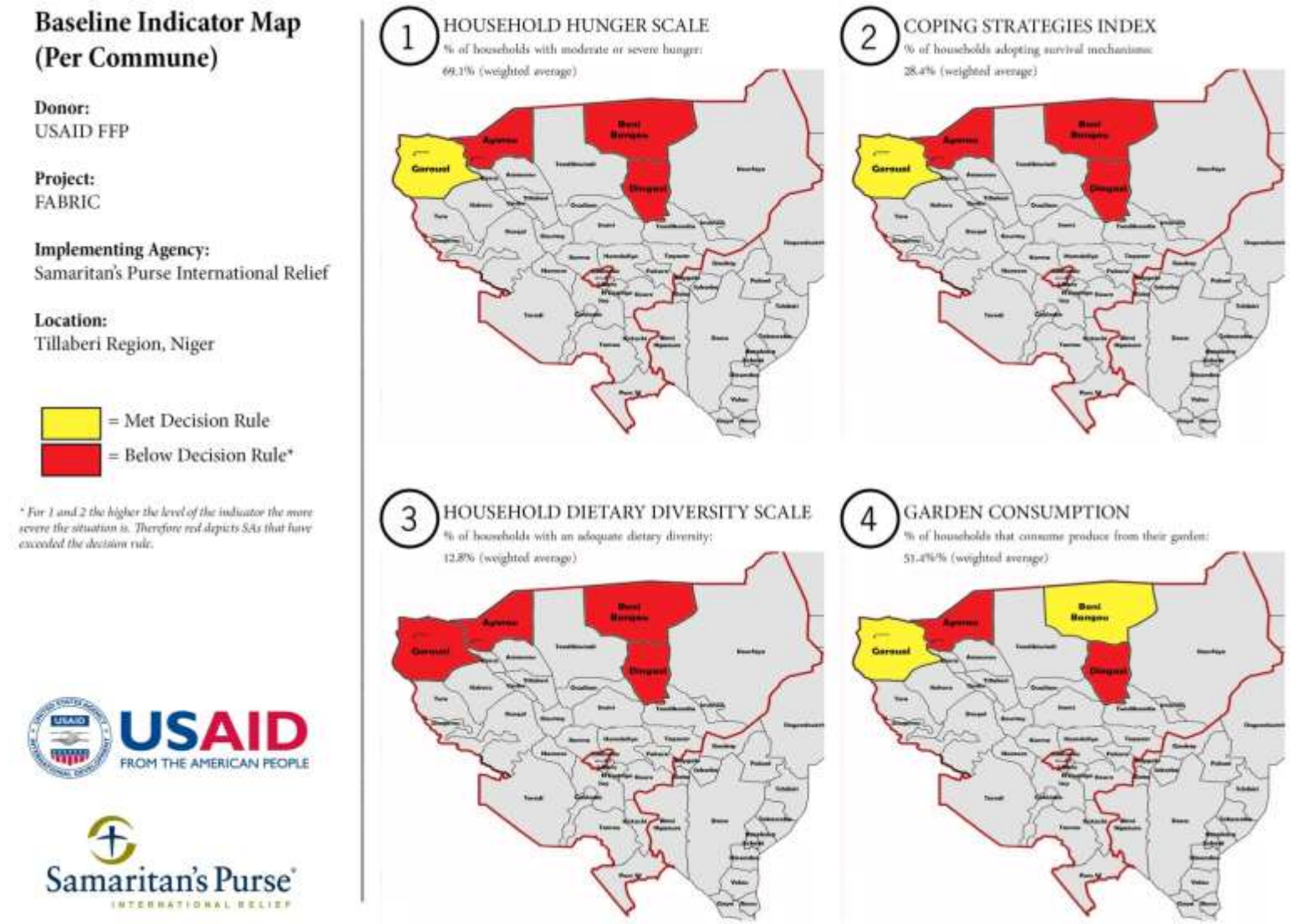
Key findings from the baseline survey include:

- The majority of households, 69%, experienced moderate or severe hunger
- 28% of households had to adopt a survival coping mechanism
- Only 12.8% of households had adequate dietary diversity
- Half of respondents, 51%, had consumed vegetables in the previous seven days

These results are presented by commune in Figure 1 overleaf.

Findings from the baseline assessments were used to both plan project activities and set results indicator targets for the life of the project.

Figure 1 LQAS map of key project indicators at baseline



2. Introduction

2.1. Project overview

The FABRIC project is being implemented by Samaritan's Purse (SP). It is a one-year food security project funded by USAID's Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP). The project is being implemented in Niger, working with vulnerable households in 40 rural communities in the Northern Tillabéry Region.

The FABRIC project is focused on building resilience by decreasing levels of vulnerability to food insecurity in the communes of Dingazi, Ayorou, Goroual and Banibangou in the Northern Tillabéry Region of Niger. The FABRIC project targets 8,100 beneficiaries of the most vulnerable households across 40 communities. The project has two major objectives:

1. Increased year-round availability of food at the household level
2. Improved dietary diversity

These objectives will be accomplished through food-for-work (FFW) initiatives where beneficiaries work toward land rehabilitation and natural resource management in return for monthly rations of millet, beans and oil. Work performed by the beneficiaries will include the construction of demi-lunes, banquettes and zai holes as well as the planting of tree nurseries and grass seed for animal fodder in pasture lands. Other beneficiaries will be engaged in off-season gardening activities to produce vegetables for consumption or sale. Beneficiaries will also learn the importance of diverse and nutritious diets, the nutrient value of the vegetables produced and how to prepare nutritious meals for better health and well-being of the whole household. (See Appendix A for the FABRIC Results Framework).

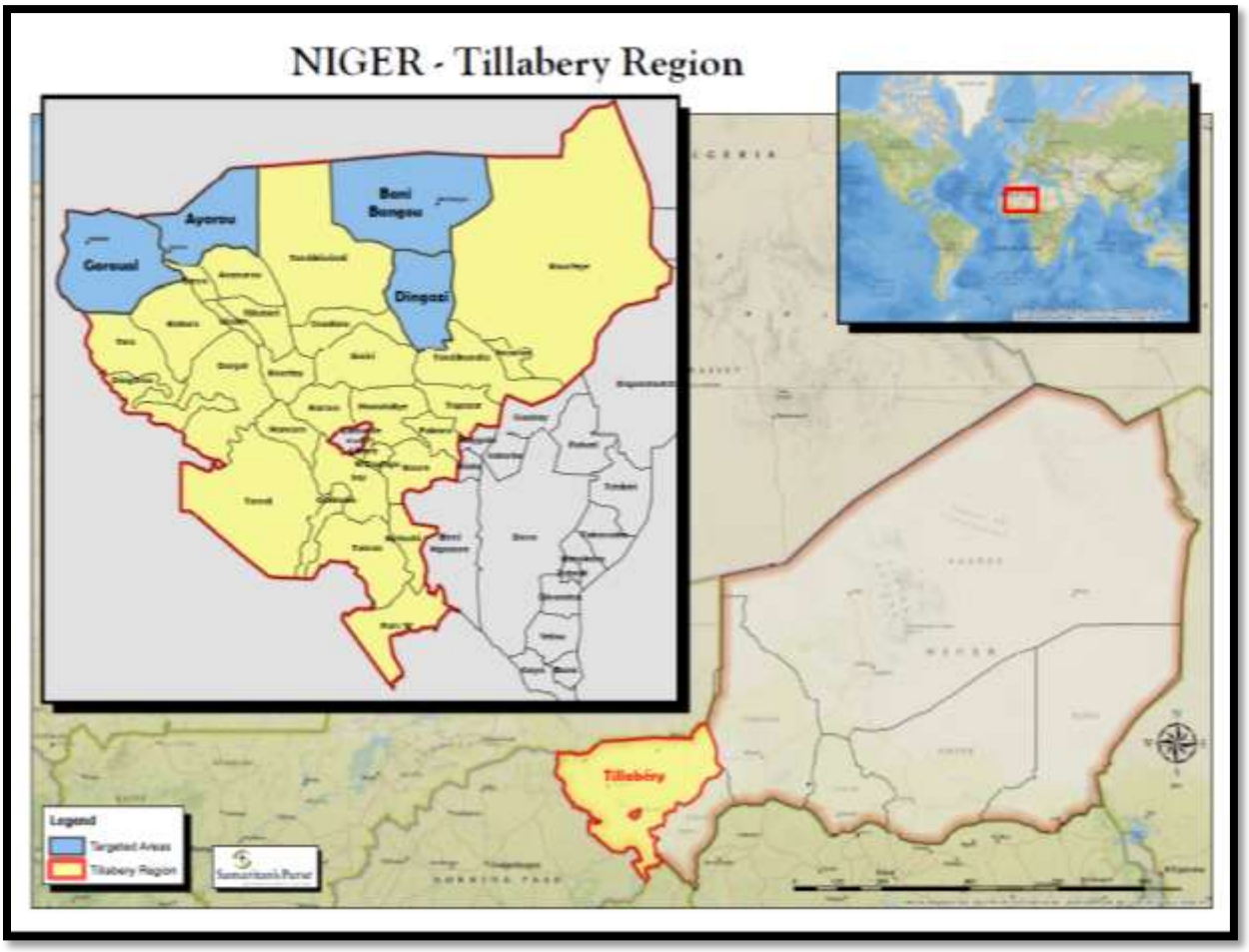
2.2. Objectives of the baseline assessment

The FABRIC project baseline assessment had the following objectives:

- Selection of beneficiaries for off-season gardening and FFW activities
- Identification of sites for off-season gardening activities
- Identification of borehole placement sites and other potential interventions to provide adequate water for gardening activities in those areas where there is inadequate or no water supply
- Identification of wells in need of rehabilitation
- Conduct environmental impact assessment of borehole placement and well rehabilitations
- Obtain baseline data for the project results indicators in the targeted communities

The baseline assessment was conducted from October 11 to November 5, 2012 across the four targeted communes Ayorou, Dingazi, Banibangou and Goroual (shown in Figure 2).

Figure 2 Targeted communes in Tillabéry Region



3. Beneficiary and Site Selection

3.1. Beneficiary selection

3.1.1. Selection criteria

The beneficiary selection criteria were designed to identify and select the most vulnerable members of the population at greatest risk of food insecurity.

Table 1 Beneficiary selection criteria

Beneficiaries	Criteria for Identification	Mechanism of Identification
Women-/elderly-headed households (HH)	• Women/elderly heads of HH, widows and divorced people • People who have partially or entirely lost their livestock assets • No access to income	• List of affected vulnerable households from the local authorities and general assemblies • Specific assessment form to record their vulnerabilities
Destitute families	• No current food stock • Victims of recent conflicts or refugees • No access to productive assets, such as garden, breeding cattle, land, etc. • Low or zero purchasing power or income source • Families with malnourished children • Families with members with disabilities	• List of destitute families from the local and government authorities • Field assessment • Community general assemblies
Small farmers/ pastoralists	• Farmer before the food crisis • Small farmland area (less than one hectare) • Affected by food crisis (livestock losses or low or zero production) • No other income sources	• List of affected farmers from the local authorities • Field assessments • Community general assemblies

3.1.2. Beneficiary selection process

Beneficiary selection was carried out in the following stages:

a) The SP-Niger Director of Programs and the FABRIC Coordinator visited each of the 40 targeted communities and met with regional and local community authorities on the objectives of FABRIC and the methodologies for beneficiary selection. Meetings were also held with authorities at the commune and regional levels to gain buy-in and support from all stakeholders.
b) After the initial meetings with community authorities, community-level meetings were held with the general population to explain the objectives of the project and to gathering preliminary information on vulnerable populations within each community. Dates and times were set for beneficiary selection and the collection of the data for the baseline survey.

c) Beneficiary selection for each of the two activity areas within the FABRIC project was conducted using the methodology detailed below.

Within the 40 targeted communities, SP selected two subsets of beneficiaries.

Household vulnerability lists from local authorities, general assemblies, and personal interviews informed FFW beneficiary selection to ensure the households fit the criteria detailed in Table 1 above and with the restriction of only one worker registering per household. The FFW portion of the FABRIC project will have two phases. A total of 3,500 beneficiaries were selected to participate in the first three month phase, 873 women and 2,627 men.

Priority for beneficiaries for garden activities was given to individuals from existing farmers' and women's groups in order to build the capacity of the groups. These gardens are located in one hectare community-designated areas. In total, 1,000 men and 3,600 women were selected to participate and will the project will benefit approximately 54,280 household members based on the average household size of 11.8 calculated from the baseline survey data.

Table 2 Beneficiary selection

Commune	Proposed # of beneficiaries			Actual # of beneficiaries			
	Gardening		FFW	Gardening		FFW	
	Women	Men	Women & Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Gorouol	900	250	809	900	250	244	565
Ayorou	900	250	992	900	250	417	575
Dingazi	900	250	317	900	250	103	214
Banibangou	900	250	1,382	900	250	109	1,273
	3,600	**1,000**	**3,500**	**3,600**	**1,000**	**873**	**2,627**
TOTAL	**4,600**		**3,500**	**4,600**		**3,500**	

3.2. Selection of gardening sites

In the initial assessment visits to the targeted communes, FABRIC agents met with local authorities, land owners, and gardening beneficiaries to select sites for the off-season gardening activities. Based on SP's knowledge of these existing gardening associations, available community land and water access, five gardening sites per commune were originally proposed, for a project total of 20 sites. Actual site selection was conducted by community elders, members of established gardening associations and the general community population based on available land to be given for use during the project, water sources and distance of the sites from beneficiary homes. Five gardening sites per commune were identified for a total of 20 gardening sites for the project.

3.3. Selection of well rehabilitation sites

Five communities that lack an adequate improved water supply but have wells in need of improvement were assessed and chosen for well rehabilitations using the following criteria:

- Shallow enough to allow small-scale irrigation for tree nurseries in the second phase of FFW activities
- Unlikely to be affected by periodic and seasonal flooding
- Not within 30 meters of potential sources of contamination, such as pit latrines or burial sites

FABRIC agents contacted the Government of Niger's (GON) Department of Hydraulics (DOH) before the assessment was carried out to ensure technical and geographic information sharing and collaboration. Approval will be obtained before commencing construction and water-related activities with the Tillabery Region DOH.

The five wells to be rehabilitated are hand-dug cement-lined wells. For a majority of these wells, water is currently being obtained by using a rope situated over a log to pull up a skin bucket with water. These open well rehabilitations will include de-silting or deepening of the well, repairing cracks in the well lining, adding a sanitary seal and apron, installing a pulley system, providing animal watering troughs and ensuring that there is suitable fencing to protect the well from animals.

The wells to be rehabilitated are located in the communes of Goroual, Dingazi and Banibangou. No wells will be rehabilitated in the commune of Ayorou due to its location adjacent to the Niger River and in an area of granite with few ground water resources. Water from the Niger River will be used for gardening activities in Ayorou.

3.4. Environmental impact assessment

The baseline evaluated the hydrogeology of the targeted areas, community preference and existing water sources in the community. In some communes, the Department of Rural Engineering recently carried out assessments of potential water sources for gardening, and these reports were obtained through the local authorities. Assessments on exact locations of boreholes and potential interventions for water sources for gardening activities are still being completed. Where drilling shallow boreholes is not possible, or found not to be the most appropriate intervention, SP requests permission to follow the guidance of the GON's technical departments in determining the best alternative intervention, which may include additional well rehabilitations.

In its assessment of vegetable garden sites and potential water sources, SP consulted USAID's Environmental Guidelines for Small-Scale Activities in Africa[1] and the GON's Departments of Hydraulics and Environment. Each potential site was studied independently to assess the potential for motor pumps to deplete the water table and/or cause negative impact to the ground water and/or environment.

[1] USAID's Environmental Guidelines for Small-Scale Activities in Africa: Environmentally Sound Design for Planning and Implementing Humanitarian and Development Activities

Now that garden sites and beneficiaries have been identified, FABRIC WASH agents will continue to carry out necessary environmental impact procedures, in coordination with the Ministry of Environment, to ensure that interventions will not adversely affect the environment and to identify possible mitigation methods.

4. Baseline Survey Methodology

4.1. Target population, survey methodology and sample size

Lot Quality Assurance Sampling methodology was used to measure the project indicators at baseline. Through a study with Johns Hopkins University, SP established that LQAS gives results equivalent to cluster sampling and is more useful for monitoring results over the life of a project.[2] To conduct the LQAS survey, the project area was divided into four supervisory areas (SAs) in line with the existing administrative units. Although LQAS methodology usually requires at least five SAs, it also recognizes that it is important to reflect the administrative divisions that exist rather than create arbitrary divisions. Parallel sampling was conducted with two questionnaires to reflect the two beneficiary groups to be included in the FABRIC project:

1. Food-insecure households eligible to participate in FABRIC FFW activities
2. Households currently belonging to gardening groups that will participate in FABRIC off-season gardening activities

For each survey, nineteen samples were required from each SA. The communities from which these samples were to be taken were identified using probability proportionate to size (PPS) selection tables. For the FFW sampling frame, all ten communities within the commune were included, whereas for the off-season gardening survey, the five communities with the existing gardening groups were included.

Respondent households in each community were randomly selected (using random number tables) from the beneficiary lists agreed upon with community leaders. At the household level, the survey was conducted with the head of the household or, if he or she was not present, a responsible adult who lived within the household and was able to respond to questions on behalf of the household. Respondents had to be over the age of fifteen years and give their consent to participate in the survey.

4.2. Survey training, data collection, entry and analysis

To conduct the FABRIC baseline survey, four survey teams consisting of six people each were formed. Survey team members participated in a three-day training to prepare them to conduct the surveys. The training covered topics including the survey and sampling methodology designs used, respondent eligibility, confidentiality policies, interviewing techniques to reduce

[2] Johns Hopkins University (2010). Cluster Survey Evaluation Report: MET Program, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and Uganda

bias, proper recording and coding of responses, and becoming familiar with the survey questionnaires, including the skip patterns. Participants learned to ask questions in a neutral manner and not to read the coded answers aloud to the respondent but to probe when necessary to receive relevant responses. Efforts were taken to ensure that the staff not only learned how to use the survey's sampling methods but also understood the logic behind them. At the end of the training, the survey team was able to practice conducting the survey in communities which were not selected to participate in the final survey. This allowed them to put into practice the techniques they learned.

The survey questionnaires were translated into French in advance of the training and pre-tested to ensure high quality translations both in terms of accuracy and appropriateness for the target respondents.

Each survey team had a supervisor who monitored data collection, ensured random selection of respondents and checked questionnaires for accuracy and completeness. This ensured a higher quality of data collected and minimized missing data.

The completed surveys were entered into LQAS tabulation tables in Excel. These tables were pre-established with formulas and validation rules to decrease data entry errors. The majority of survey questions included pre-coded responses to improve speed and accuracy of data entry. After entry, the data was cleaned and analyzed. Any errors were corrected by using data triangulation and referencing the hard copies of the questionnaires.

For each of the eight FABRIC results indicators, data was tabulated to show the relative level of the indicators in each SA.

Due to the nature of a baseline survey, and the intrinsic absence of indicator targets, the decision rule for LQAS analysis in this type of survey is determined by the average of the indicators at baseline across all SAs. Therefore, during data tabulation, analysis indicator levels in each SA were compared to the average and determined to have met or be below the decision rule. Being below the decision rule, and effectively below the average, will be a positive or negative situation depending on the specific indicator. For example, for the indicator, "percentage of households with adequate dietary diversity", a SA below the decision rule would reflect having a more severe situation. For the indicator, "percentage of households with moderate or severe hunger", being below the decision rule would reflect a less severe situation. Results were interpreted in light of this.

Aggregated weighted averages were calculated for each indicator based on the total population size of the communes surveyed.

5. Results of the Survey

5.1. Surveyed communities

Niger is divided into regions, departments, communes and communities. The baseline survey was conducted in 40 communities in Northern Tillabéry Region in Western Niger, specifically the communes of Goroual, Banibangou, Dingazi and Ayorou. The breakdown of these communities within the sample can be seen in Table 3 below.

Table 3 Surveyed households by commune and community

Goroual Commune	No. of HH Surveyed		% of Total Sample	
	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.
Alkongui I	2	0	10.5	0
Alkongui II	0	0	0	0
Daya Hondo	1	0	5	0
Fantio	2	4	10.5	21
Kolmane	2	4	10.5	21
Wanzerbe I & II	3	0	16	0
Satamane	1	0	5	0
Weizebangou	3	4	16	21
Boukary Koira	2	3	10.5	16
Yatakala	3	4	16	21
Total	19	19	100	100

Ayorou Commune	No. of HH Surveyed		% of Total Sample	
	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.
Souley Goundjia	1	0	5.3	0
Koi Gouro Tchire	0	0	0	0
Firgoune/Yassane	2	4	10.5	21
Ayorou Goungou	1	4	5.3	21
Doulsou	2	3	10.5	16
Goungou Kore	2	0	10.5	0
Koutougou	2	4	10.5	21
Ayorou Haoussa	8	4	42	21
Gaoudel	1	0	5.3	0
Waita Koira	0	0	0	0
Total	19	19	100	100

Dingazi Commune	No. of HH Surveyed		% of Total Sample	
	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.
Diep Beri	3	0	16	0
Darey Bangou	2	4	10.5	21
Yourmandi Koira	1	0	5	0
Fondo Zongou	2	0	10.5	0
Soudjedo	3	4	16	21
Farka Tessi	2	0	10.5	0
Batalara	2	0	10.5	0
Banimate	0	4	0	21
Tchigo	2	4	10.5	21
Fourmey II	2	3	10.5	16
Total	19	19	100	100

Banibangou Commune	No. of HH Surveyed		% of Total Sample	
	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.
Dinara	3	0	16	0
Soumatte	2	4	10.5	21
Bazeyze	1	4	5.2	21
Gosso	2	4	10.5	21
Moudouk	1	0	5.2	0
Banibangou	4	3	21	16
Garbey	0	0	0	0
Adabdab	4	0	21	0
Kolougta	1	0	5.2	0
Tizo Gorou	1	4	5.2	21
Total	19	19	100	100

5.2. Respondent and household demographics

5.2.1. Gender, household size and displacement of respondents

The distribution of respondents by sex, marital status and age were consistent across the four target communes. Respondents were 53% male, 78.5% married, approximately 47 years old and had an average supporting household size of 11.8 members. Since January 2012, Niger has hosted a significant number of Malian refugees and Nigerien returnees following conflicts and instability in Mali. The number of refugees and returnees in Niger is currently 65,012.[3] The FABRIC project's targeted areas are just south of the border with Mali and include one official refugee site in Ayorou, several unofficial camps in Banibangou, and many scattered families who have opened their homes to refugees. Baseline survey findings show an estimated 19% of respondent HHs include refugees.

Table 4 Demographics of respondents

Respondents' characteristic	Goroual Commune		Ayorou Commune		Dingazi Commune		Banibangou Commune		Total by activity		Total overall
	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.	FFW	Gard.	
Sex											
Female	32%	37%	37%	79%	37%	74%	5%	74%	28%	66%	47%
Male	68%	63%	63%	21%	63%	26%	95%	26%	72%	34%	53%
Marital status											
Married	84%	74%	68%	63%	74%	89%	95%	79%	80%	77%	78.5%
Divorced	5%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Widowed	11%	26%	32%	32%	26%	11%	5%	21%	19%	22%	20.5%
Average age	44.5	44	58.8	45.6	53	42	44.2	43.7	50	43.9	47
Average HH size	8.5	9.8	10.8	12.7	15.5	12.6	12.9	11.6	11.9	11.7	11.8
% of HH with refugees	5%	5%	16%	10.5%	11%	5%	37%	47%	21%	17%	19%
# of refugees in HHs	1	1	30	10	26	7	31	39	88	57	145

[3] OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin No. 42, 24 October 2012

Follow up visits to all beneficiary households will be done after the submission of this report to verify information on number of refugees, number of internally displaced peoples (IDPs), and household size. The exact number of refugees and IDPs, as well as indirect impact based on household size, will be included in the first project quarterly report.

5.3. Project results indicators

5.3.1. Meals per day

Indicator 1 measures the percentage of households that eat at least three meals per day. It is important to note that the data collected for this indicator must be interpreted in light of two factors:

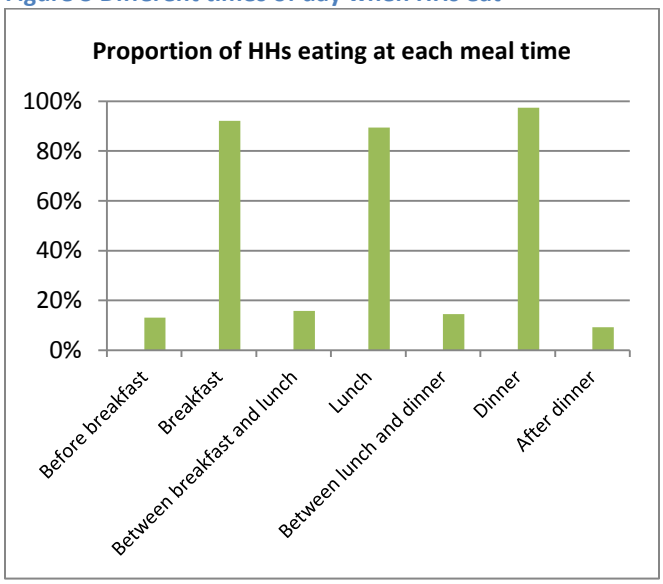
1. The period of time during which the data was collected is the most plentiful time of the year for the target population. This yields a more favorable meals per day result against what would be found six months from now during the height of the dry/hunger season.
2. Culturally, the definition of meal is quite broad. Focus group discussions were held with male and female beneficiaries during the beneficiary identification survey to discuss and determine the definition of a meal. In Tillabéry, a meal can be "foura", which is a porridge mixture of sorghum or millet and water or milk, if available. In the evenings, a meal can also be "patte" which is a starch dish made with millet or sorghum and eaten with different kinds of stews and meat, if available. In light of this, families might eat up to five "meals" each day during times of adequate food access and availability.

Keeping the above factors in mind, the average number of meals per day was found to be 3.32, and 86.6% of households were eating three meals per day. As expected during this period of the year, the data shows that more than 80% of households eat the majority of their meals at breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Table 5 Indicator 1: % of HHs that eat at least three meals a day

HHs eating at least three meals per day			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 86.6%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	19		Yes
Two	14		No
Three	16	Decision Rule = 15	Yes
Four	16		Yes

Figure 3 Different times of day when HHs eat



5.3.2. Household hunger score

Indicator 2 measures the household hunger score. As seen in Table 6, survey findings indicate that 69.1% of households experienced moderate or severe hunger over the previous 40 days.

Table 6 Indicator 2: % of HH with moderate or severe hunger

HHs with moderate/severe hunger			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 69.1%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	9		No
Two	13		Yes
Three	15	Decision Rule = 11	Yes
Four	16		Yes

Figures 4 and 5 show the percentage of households who have experienced a hunger event within the previous 40 days and a breakdown of the percentages of households with moderate to severe hunger.

Figure 4 Frequency of hunger events

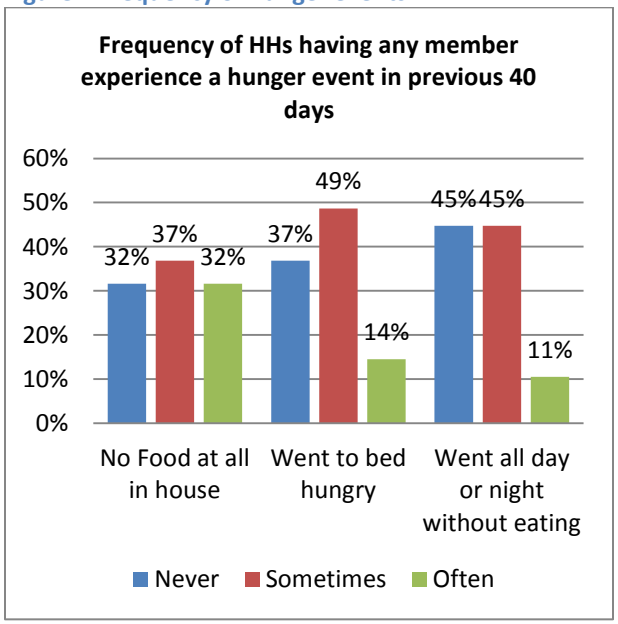
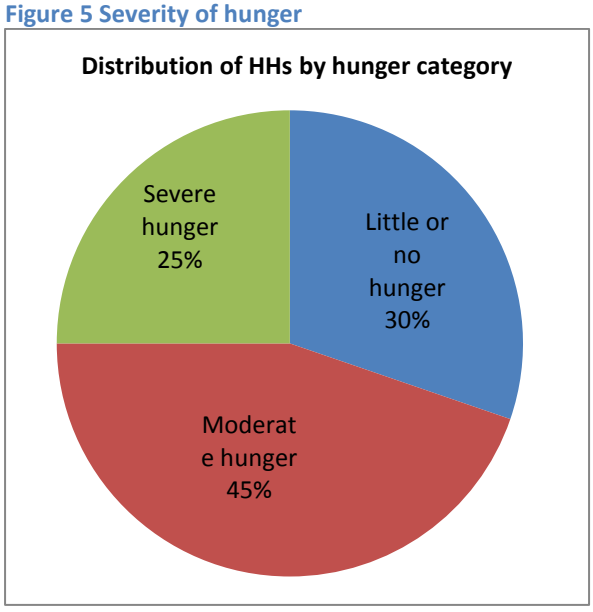


Figure 5 Severity of hunger



5.3.3. Coping strategy index

Indicator 3 measures survival coping strategies used in targeted households. Since the survey was implemented during the most plentiful time of the year for the targeted communities, the survey asked about survival coping mechanisms used in the previous 40 days to also cover the pre-harvest period. This data was then factored to seven days to provide the standard indicator. Three focus group discussions were held to determine the local coping mechanism to be included and to rank them on a scale from 1 to 4. To calculate the standard indicator, coping mechanisms ranked as 1 and 2 were classed as adaptive, 3 as distressed and 4 as survival.

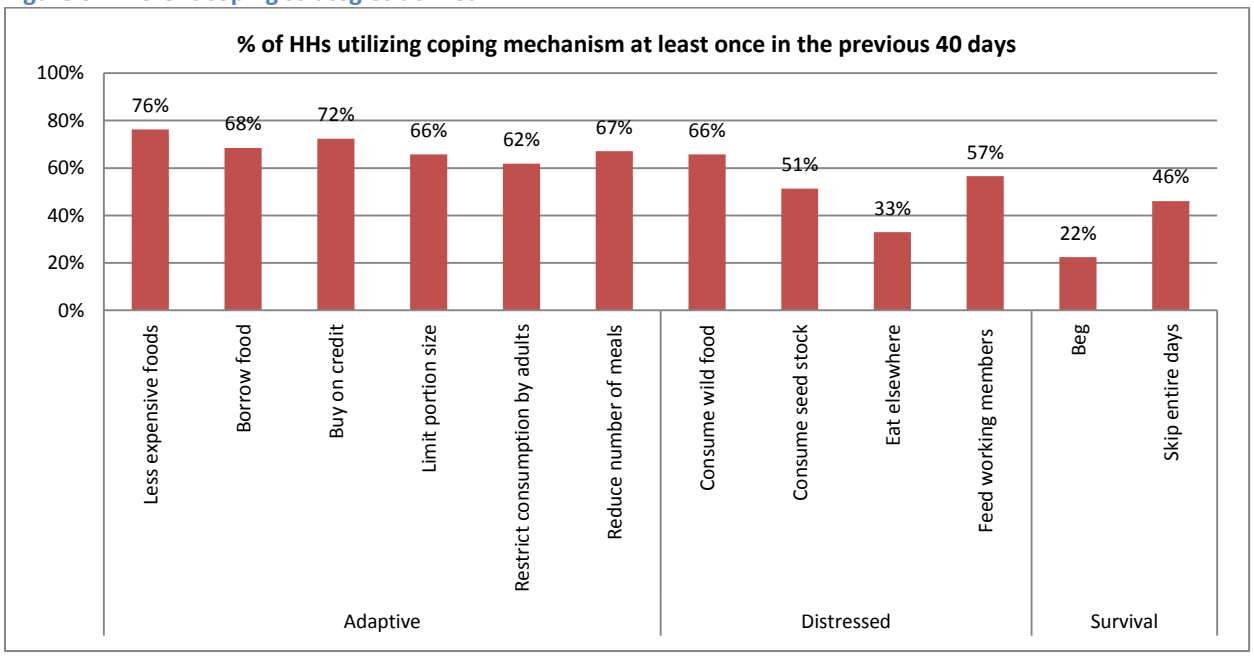
The weighted average Coping Strategy Index (CSI) score for 40 days was 165 (range 0 to 691). The factored weighted average for seven days was 20 (range 0 to 121). Overall, 28.4% of households adopted a survival coping mechanism at least once in seven days.

Table 7 Indicator 3: % of HHs adopting a survival coping mechanism at least once in seven days

HHs adopting a survival coping mechanism at least once in seven days			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 28.4%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	0		No
Two	5		Yes
Three	9	Decision Rule = 3	Yes
Four	9		Yes

Survey findings indicate a reduction in household spending on food to be the most common coping mechanism used within the previous 40 days, followed by buying food on credit which leads to an accumulation of household debt (Figure 6).

Figure 6 Different coping strategies utilized



5.3.4. Sustainable environmental practices

Knowledge and application of environmental practices are measured through Indicator 4. Survey findings reveal that 47.1% of the population knows at least six environmental practices. The most commonly known are the construction of demi-lunes and banquettes, and the least commonly known were composting and natural regeneration.

Table 8 Indicator 4: % of HHs that know at least 6 environmental practices

HHs that know at least 6 environmental practices			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 47.1%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	10		Yes
Two	12		Yes
Three	12	Decision Rule = 7	Yes
Four	3		No

5.3.5. Household dietary diversity

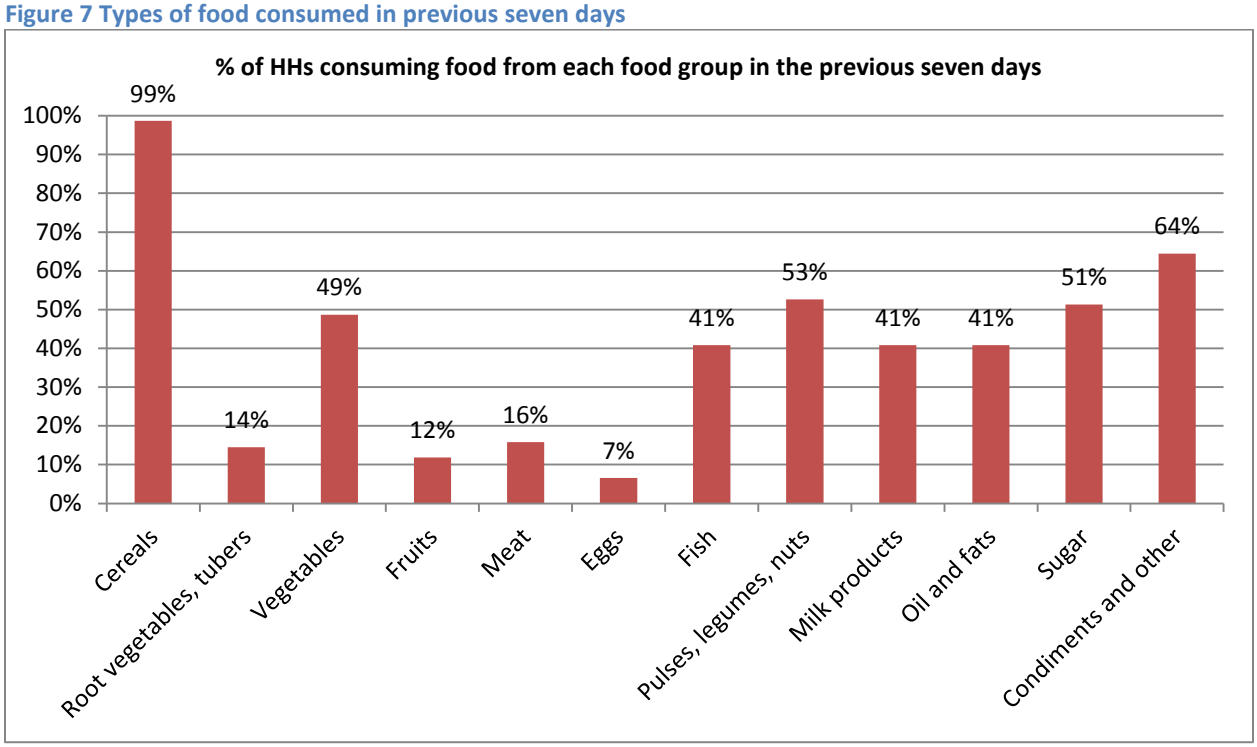
Indicator 5 measures HH dietary diversity using the Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS). Results of the survey show the HDDS in targeted populations to be 5.00. As per HDDS procedure, the HDDS indicator was set based on findings from the top 33% of respondents during the baseline assessment, which showed an average of eight food types. Only 12.8% of households were found to have an adequate dietary diversity score.

Table 9 Indicator 5: % of HHs with adequate dietary diversity

HHs with adequate dietary diversity			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 12.8%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	3		Yes
Two	6		Yes
Three	2	Decision Rule = 0	Yes
Four	0		Yes

As detailed in Figure 7 overleaf, baseline survey findings indicate that cereals are the most commonly consumed food group by 99% of respondents, followed by 'condiments and other' and 'pulses, legumes, nuts.' Less than 20% of households consumed root vegetables, tubers, fruits, meat and eggs.

Figure 7 Types of food consumed in previous seven days



5.3.6. Nutrition practices

Indicator 6 focuses on knowledge of good nutrition practices within the household. The survey findings indicate just over half of the target population (51.4%) know at least six good household nutritional practices.

Table 10 Indicator 6: % of HHs that know at least six good nutritional practices

HHs that know at least six good HH nutritional practices			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 51.4%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	12		Yes
Two	12		Yes
Three	13	Decision Rule = 8	Yes
Four	6		No

5.3.7. Production of food

Indicators 7 and 8 complement each other in measuring household production of vegetables from personal garden plots and determining whether or not those vegetables are used for consumption within the same household. Survey findings indicate that 53.1% households are growing vegetables in garden plots (Table 11) and almost all of these, 51.4% of all households, are consuming the vegetables they are growing (Table 12). These findings were consistent for three of the four SAs.

Table 11 Indicator 7: % of HHs that produce their own vegetables from garden plots

HHs producing their own vegetables from garden plots			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 53.1%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	9		Yes
Two	6		No
Three	7	Decision Rule = 8	Yes
Four	14		Yes

Table 12 Indicator 8: % of HHs that consume produce from their garden plot

HHs consuming produce from their garden plots			
Supervisory Area	**# Correct**	**Weighted Coverage = 51.4%**	**Met Decision Rule**
One	9		Yes
Two	5		No
Three	6	Decision Rule = 8	Yes
Four	14		Yes

6. Implications for Project Implementation, Performance Indicators and Targets

Based on the results of the baseline assessment, all gardening, borehole and well rehabilitation sites have been identified. Beneficiaries meeting project criteria have also been identified and are ready to participate in FABRIC activities.

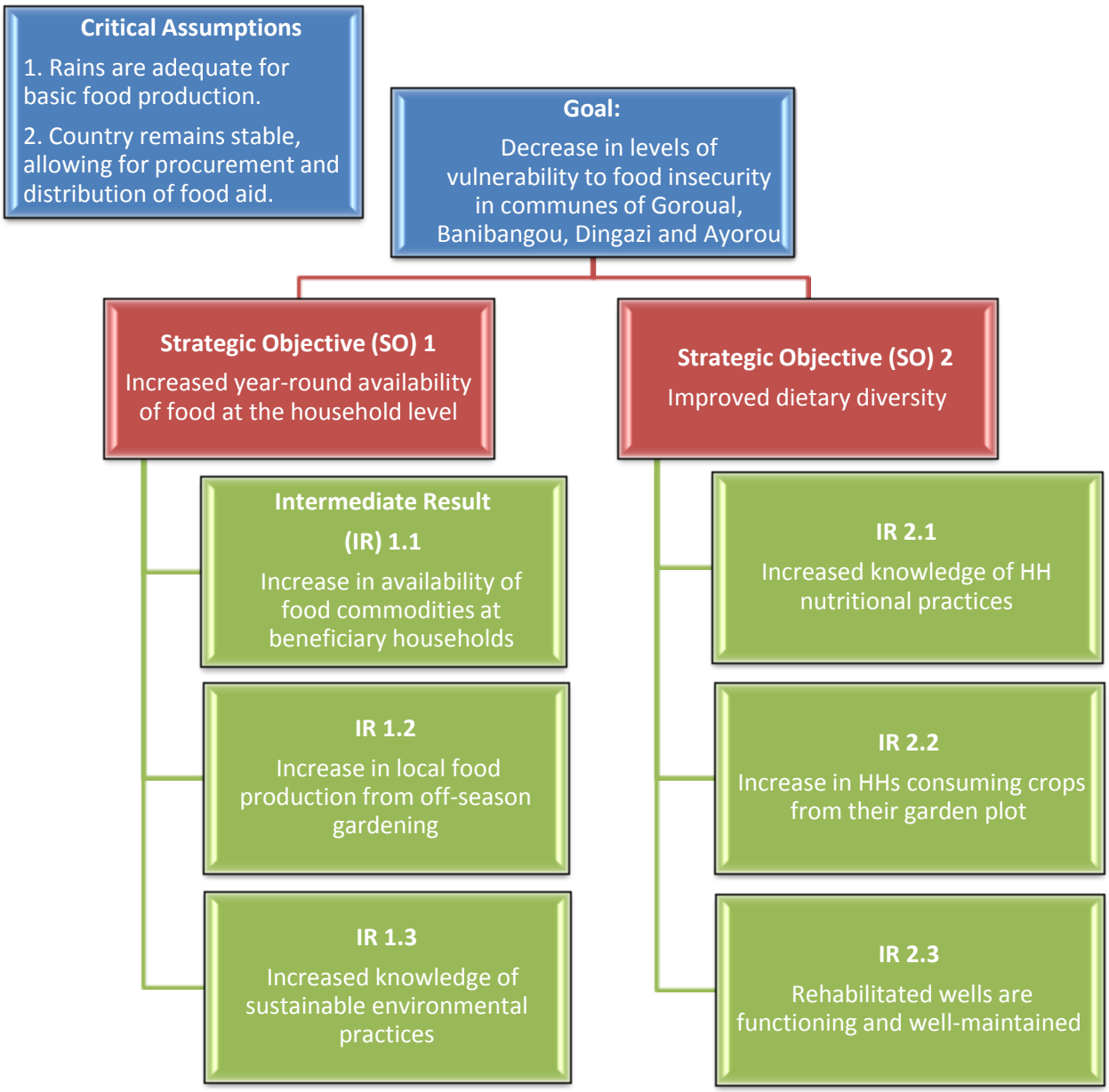
As a result of the baseline survey information collected, indicator targets have now been set to provide clear goals and objectives for the life of the project. (Please see Appendix B for the completed FABRIC Indicator Tracking Table with numerical targets).

As previously stated, the start of the FABRIC project and the subsequent baseline survey fell immediately during and after the harvest season in the targeted communities. As it was a relatively good rainy season and harvest, the data collected, in general, reflects a higher availability of food and resources in the household, showing favorable results for some indicators, such as meals per day. As a result of this data and the focus on resilience within the project, FABRIC will attempt to maintain these targets rather than set significantly higher targets to ensure the beneficiary population continues to have adequate meals per day and dietary diversity throughout the life of the project, which will span the typical hunger season.

Despite the recent harvest, the baseline data clearly indicates continued food insecurity among targeted households showing use of survival coping strategies and experience of moderate to

severe hunger. Therefore, based on the data, targets have been set to decrease percentages of moderate to severe hunger and decrease the need for households to use survival coping strategies.

APPENDIX A: FABRIC Results Framework



APPENDIX B: FABRIC Indicator Tracking Table

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Population Covered	Responsibility
Assistance Objective								
Decrease in household vulnerability to food insecurity in 40 communities in the communes of Ayorou, Banibangou, Dingazi and Goroual								
Strategic Objectives								
SO1: Increased year-round availability of food at the household level	% of HH consuming 3 or more meals per day (MPD) % HH with moderate or severe hunger (hunger scale) Average CSI	86.6% consuming 3 or more MPD 25% HH with severe hunger; 45% HH with moderate hunger CSI average: 20	No significant decrease in % HH consuming 3 + MPD 10% decrease in severe hunger and 20% decrease in moderate hunger No significant change in CSI during hunger season	Surveys	Field reports Surveys	Baseline Endline	All beneficiaries	Field supervisors Coordinators Project manager
SO2: Improved dietary diversity	Average HH dietary diversity score	5.00	8.00	Surveys	Field reports Surveys	Baseline Endline	All beneficiaries	Field supervisors Coordinators Project manager

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Population Covered	Responsibility
Intermediate Results								
IR 1.1: Increased availability of food commodities at beneficiary households	# of HH receiving food from FFW distributions	NA	3,500 HH have received food from FFW distributions		Distribution reports	Monthly	FFW beneficiaries	FFW coordinator
IR 1.2 Increased local food production from off-season gardening	% of participants producing vegetables from their garden portion	53.1% of participants producing vegetables from their garden	80% of participants have produced vegetables	Project reports Interviews	Surveys	Baseline Endline	Gardening beneficiaries	Agriculture supervisor Field coordinator
IR 1.3 Increased knowledge of sustainable environ-mental practices	% of FFW HH who can identify 6 or more sustainable environ-mental practices	47.1% can identify 6 or more sustainable environ-mental practices	80% of HH can identify 6 or more sustainable environmental practices	Survey Project reports	Surveys	Baseline Endline	FFW beneficiaries	Agricultural/environ mental supervisors FFW supervisors Field coordinator

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Population Covered	Responsibility
IR 2.1 Increased knowledge of HH nutritional practices	% of beneficiaries who can name 6 or more HH nutritional practices	51.4% of beneficiaries who can name 6 or more HH nutritional practices	80% of beneficiaries can name 6 or more HH nutritional practices	Surveys	Surveys	Baseline Endline	Gardening beneficiaries	Nutrition supervisor Nutrition coordinator
IR 2.2 Increase in HHs consuming crops from their garden plot	% of HHs consuming crops from their gardens in the preceding month	51.4% HHs consuming crops from their gardens	80% of HHs consuming crops from their gardens in the preceding month	Surveys	Surveys	Baseline Endline	Gardening beneficiaries	Nutrition supervisor Nutrition coordinator
IR 2.3 Rehabilitated wells are functioning and well-maintained	% of wells with a sanitary risk score of less than 2	0% of wells with a sanitary risk score of less than 2	100% of wells have a sanitary risk score of less than 2	Observa-tion checklists	Observations	Endline	5 rehabilitated wells	WASH supervisor WASH coordinator

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Population Covered	Responsibility
Outputs								
1.1 Locally-procured food purchased and distributed	# of metric tons (MT) of commodities purchased and distributed	0	1,108 MT	Project reports	Distribution reports	Monthly	3,500 HH	FFW supervisors and coordinators
2.1 Seeds, tools and inputs procured and distributed for gardening activities	# of beneficiaries receiving seeds, tools and inputs for gardening	0	4,600 beneficiaries	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	4,600 HH	Project staff
2.3 Wells rehabilitated	# of wells rehabilitated	0	5 wells	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	2,000 HH	Project staff
2.1 Garden water sources established	# garden water sources established	0	20 garden water sources established	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	4,600 HH	Project staff

Expected Results	Indicators	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Population Covered	Responsibility
1.3 Livelihood assets developed, built or restored by targeted communities and HH	# hectares of land rehabilitated through FFW activities	0	Targets set after baseline	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	3,500 HH	Project staff
2.1 Nutrition education conducted	# of beneficiaries (men and women) trained	NA	3608 women 1001 men	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	4,600 HH	Project staff
1.3 Natural resources, agriculture & environ-mental education conducted	# of beneficiaries (men and women) trained	NA	873 women 2,627 men	Project reports	Field reports	Monthly	3,500 HH	Project staff
Training WPCs in water point management	# of WPCs training sessions conducted	NA	5 WPCs trained twice (10 sessions)	Project reports	Field reports	Per session	5 WPCs	Project staff

APPENDIX C: FABRIC Baseline Survey Questionnaires

FABRIC: FFW BASELINE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Commune _____ **Village** _____

Interviewer Name: _____

Date of Interview: **(day/month/year)** _____/_____/_____

Respondent Number: **Respondent of 19**

Verification date: **(day / month / year)** _____/_____/_____

Team Leader Signature of review: _____

INTRODUCTION:

GREETINGS. MY NAME IS _____, AND I AM WITH SAMARITAN'S PURSE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF, A GROUP THAT WILL COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FABRIC INTEGRATED PROJECT. I AM HERE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S SITUATION.

Confidentiality and consent:

We are here conduct to learn more about the situation of your family and your village which is important to help understand the needs of people in your community. Your answers are completely confidential. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to answer, and you may end this interview at any time you want to. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to this survey. The survey will take about **15** minutes to complete.

Would you be willing to participate?

Yes: _____ No: _____

THANK YOU

Signature of Interviewer: _____ Date: _____

(certifies informed consent has been given verbally by the respondent)

Section A: Identification of respondent

No	Questions and filters	Answers	Coding categories
1.1	Sex of respondent	Male Female	1 2
1.2	Age of respondent	*Age in full years*	____
1.3	Marital Status	Single Married Divorced Widow/Widower	1 2 3 4
2.1	Number of People in Household	2.1.1 Male 2.1.2 Female 2.1.3 Girls 2.1.4 Boys 2.1.5 TOTAL	____ ____ ____ ___ ____
2.2	Do you host a Refugee in your house hold? If no, skip to the next question	If yes, How many : 2.2.1. Male 2.2.2. Female 2.2.3. Girls 2.2.4. Boys 2.2.5. TOTAL	 ---------- ---------- ---------- ---------- ----------
3	In the last year have you been forced to move from the place where you normally live?	Yes…….. No……..	1 0

Section B: Food Consumption

No	Questions and filters	Answers	
4	During the previous 24-hour period, did you or anyone in your household consume?		
		Yes	**No**
4.1	Any food before breakfast	1	0
4.2	Breakfast	1	0
4.3	Between breakfast and lunch	1	0
4.4	Lunch	1	0
4.5	Between lunch and dinner	1	0
4.6	Dinner	1	0
4.7	After dinner	1	0

Section C. Hunger Index

No	Questions and filters	Answers	Skip
5.1	During the last 40 days, was there ever no food to eat of any kind in your house because of lack of resources to get food?	No …….0 >> Yes 1	skip to 5.3
5.2	How often did this happen during the last 40 days?	Rarely (1–2)……1 Sometimes (3–10)……..2 Often (>10)…….3	
5.3	During the last 40 days, did you or any household member go to sleep at night hungry because there was not enough food?	No …….0 >> Yes …….....1	skip to 5.5
5.4	How often did this happen during the last 40 days?	Rarely (1–2)……1 Sometimes (3–10)……..2 Often (>10)…….3	
5.5	During the last 40 days, did you or any household member go a whole day and night without eating anything at all because there was not enough food?	No …….0 >> Yes 1	Skip to section D
5.6	How often did this happen during the last 40 days?	Rarely (1–2)……1 Sometimes (3–10)……..2 Often (>10)…….3	

Section D. Index of Coping Strategies

6.01	In the past 40 days have there been times when you did not have enough food or money to buy food?	No …….0 >> Yes ……..1	Skip to section E
	If yes, how many days has your household had to:	Number of days out of the past 40 (0 – 40)	
6.02	Rely on less preferred and less expensive foods?	days	
6.03	Borrow food, or rely on help from a friend or relative?	days	
6.04	Purchase food on credit?	days	
6.05	Gather wild food, hunt, or harvest immature crops?	days	
6.06	Consume seed stock held for next season?	days	
6.07	Send household members to eat elsewhere?	days	
6.08	Send household members to beg?	days	
6.09	Limit portion size at mealtimes?	days	
6.10	Restrict consumption by adults in order for small children to eat?	days	
6.11	Feed working members of HH at the expense of non-working members?	days	
6.12	Reduce number of meals eaten in a day?	days	
6.13	Skip entire days without eating?	days	

Section E: Environmental Practices

No	Questions and filters	Coding categories		skip
7.01	Do you know any agricultural practices that can benefit the environment?	No ……..0 >> Yes ……..1		End
	If yes, what things can you do to benefit the environment?			
		Yes	**No**	
7.02	Demi-lunes	1	0	
7.03	Zai holes	1	0	
7.04	Banquettes	1	0	
7.05	Tree planting	1	0	
7.06	Farmer Managed	1	0	
7.07	Natural Regeneration	1	0	
7.08	Mulching	1	0	
7.09	Compost on farm	1	0	
7.10	Manure on farm	1	0	

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THE INTERVIEW.

FABRIC: GARDENING BASELINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Commune _____ **Village** _____

Interviewer Name: _____

Date of Interview: **(day/month/year)** _____/_____/_____

Respondent Number: **Respondent of 21**

Verification date: **(day / month / year)** _____/_____/_____

Team Leader Signature of review: _____

INTRODUCTION:

GREETINGS. MY NAME IS _____, AND I AM WITH SAMARITAN'S PURSE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF, A GROUP THAT WILL COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FABRIC INTEGRATED PROJECT. I AM HERE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S SITUATION.

Confidentiality and consent:

We are here conduct to learn more about the situation of your family and your village which is important to help understand the needs of people in your community. Your answers are completely confidential. You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to answer, and you may end this interview at any time you want to. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to this survey. The survey will take about **15** minutes to complete.

Would you be willing to participate?

Yes: _____ No: _____

THANK YOU

Signature of Interviewer: _____ Date: _____

(Certifies informed consent has been given verbally by the respondent)

Section A: Identification of respondent

No	Questions and filters	Answers	Coding categories
1.1	Sex of respondent	Male Female	1 2
1.2	Age of respondent	*Age in full years*	____
1.3	Marital Status	Single Married Divorced Widow/Widower	1 2 3 4
2.1	Number of People in Household	2.1.1 Male 2.1.2 Female 2.1.3 Girls 2.1.4 Boys 2.1.5 TOTAL	____ ____ ____ ___ ____
2.2	Do you host a Refugee in your house hold? If no, skip to the next question	If yes, How many : 2.2.1. Male 2.2.2. Female 2.2.3. Girls 2.2.4. Boys 2.2.5. TOTAL	------- ---------- ---------- ---------- ----------
3	In the last year have you been forced to move from the place where you normally live?	Yes…….. No…….	1 0

Section B: Index of Food/Dietary Diversity

READ THE LIST OF FOODS. RECORD "YES" (1) IF ANYONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD ATE THE FOOD IN QUESTION. RECORD "NO" (0) IF NO ONE IN THE HOUSEHOLD ATE THE FOOD.

THE FOODS LISTED SHOULD BE THOSE PREPARED IN THE HOUSEHOLD AND EATEN IN THE HOUSEHOLD OR TAKEN ELSEWHERE TO EAT. DO NOT INCLUDE FOODS CONSUMED OUTSIDE THE HOME THAT WERE PREPARED ELSEWHERE.

VERIFY THAT YESTERDAY WAS NOT UNUSUAL OR SPECIAL (FESTIVAL, FUNERAL, OR IF MOST HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WERE ABSENT). IF IT WAS AN UNUSUAL/SPECIAL DAY, SKIP TO SECTION F.

	FOODS	YES	NO	Main Source of Food	Coding for Source of Food
4.01.	**Cereals-**millet, sorghum, rice, maize, wheat, biscuits, noodles	1	0		1= Own production (farming, livestock) 2=Hunting, fishing 3=Picking 4=Borrowing 5=Purchasing 6-Exchange work against food 7= Item Exchange against food 8= Gifts(Food) from families/relatives 9=Food Aid (NGO, etc.) 10=Other, specify :_____
4.02.	**Tubers-**Cassava, yam, sweet potatoes, arish potatoes	1	0		
4.03.	**Vegetables-**onion, tomatoes, pepper, moringa leaves, cassava leaves	1	0		
4.04.	**Fruits-**banana, mango, pineapple, orange, papaya, lemon, guava, melon	1	0		
4.05.	**Meat, poultry—**sheep, goat, beef, camel, chicken, guinea folk, duck, turkey, pigeon	1	0		
4.06.	**Eggs**	1	0		
4.07.	**Fish and shellfish-** dried or fresh	1	0		
4.08.	**Legumes/nuts**- peanuts, beans	1	0		
4.09.	**Milk and dairy products—**milk, yogurt, milk curdles, powdered milk, skimmed milk	1	0		
4.10.	**Oil/ fatty products**—peanut oil, soy oil, olive oil, palm oil, animal fat, fatty fish	1	0		
4.11.	**Sugar/ honey—**beterave, sugarcane	1	0		
4.12.	**Condiments**—tea, coffee, condiments	1	0		

Section C: Nutritional Practices

No	Questions and filters	Coding categories		skip
5.1	Do you know any good household nutritional practices?	No ……0 >> Yes ……..1		Skip to section H
	If yes, what practices do you know?			
		Yes	**No**	
5.2	Eat a variety of food groups at each meal.	1	0	
5.3	Provide suitable amounts of food for each family member	1	0	
5.4	Wash hands before preparing food and eating	1	0	
5.5	Wash hands before feeding a child	1	0	
5.6	Use covered containers to collect and store water	1	0	
5.7	Cover raw and cooked foods	1	0	
5.8	Store leftover foods	1	0	

Section D: Vegetable Production and Use

6.1	Did you harvest crops from your vegetable garden plot in the preceding month? If yes, specify	Yes 1 No 0
6.2	Did you consume crops that you harvested from your vegetable plot? If yes, specify	Yes 1 No 0

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THE INTERVIEW.